UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/634,070	08/04/2003	Kai Chung Franco Yik	CONC1038(U)	5225

25722 7590 12/29/2003

CONCORD CAMERA CORP.
4000 HOLLYWOOD BLVD
#650N
HOLLYWOOD, FL 33021

EXAMINER	
BLACKMAN, ROCHELLE ANN J	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2851	

DATE MAILED: 12/29/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/634,070	YIK, KAI CHUNG FRANCO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Rochelle Blackman	2851	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *04 August 2003*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *04 August 2003* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

13)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) *11/07/03* .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required: the claimed "locking finger" is not disclosed in the specification.

Claim Objections

Claims 4, 7, 8, 12, and 17 are objected to because of the following informalities:

1. In claim 4, "counter indicia" should read - -counting indicia- - as it reads in parent claim 1.

2. In claim 7, the ";" should be omitted.

3. In claim 8, "silkscreened" should be changed to - -silk-screened- -. Appropriate correction is required.

4. In claim 17, "mating structure" should read - -mating portion- - as it reads in parent claims 15 and 16, and "complementary structure" should read - -complementary portion- - as it reads in parent claims 15 and 16.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Aoshima et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,343,185.

Regarding claims 1-14, Aoshima discloses a "method of setting a counter wheel in a camera"(see FIGS. 1, 2, 12, 13, 15, and 28), comprising: (a) "providing a camera body"(see 15 of FIG. 2 or 115 of FIG. 15), including, a "film cassette chamber"(see 29 of FIG. 2 or 130 of FIG. 15), a "film roll chamber"(see 30 of FIG. 2 or 131 of FIG. 15), and a "sprocket assembly, at least a portion of which is mounted to said camera body between said film cassette chamber and said film roll chamber"(see 155 and 161 of FIG. 12), said sprocket assembly including a "sprocket wheel"(see 161 of FIG. 12) and a "locking member"(see 153 and 154 of FIG. 12), "wherein said locking member periodically locks to prevent rotation of said sprocket wheel"(see 153d and 155f of FIG. 12 and col. 19, lines 31-34), said locking member including a "mating portion"(see 153g of FIG. 12); (b) "locking said sprocket wheel with said locking member"(see 153d and 155f of FIG. 12 and col. 19, lines 31-34); (c) "providing a counter wheel including counting indicia and a complementary portion for mating with said mating portion"(for "counter wheel", see 152 of FIGS. 12 and 13; for "counting indicia", see A, B, 167B, dots, and numbers arranged in an arc around the edge on top of "counter wheel" 152 in FIG. 13; and for "complimentary portion", see 163 of FIGS. 12 and 13); (d) "placing said counter wheel in rotational engagement with said camera body"(see 152 of FIGS. 12 and 13); (e) "rotating said counter wheel in a first direction until said complementary portion locks with said mating portion to prevent further rotation of said counter wheel in

said first direction"(see col. 21, lines 52-65); (f) "placing a plate over said counter wheel to lock said counter wheel to said camera body"(see 167 of FIG. 15); (g) "loading a web of film across a portion of said film sprocket, from said film cassette chamber to said film roll chamber"(see 124 of FIG. 12); (h) "providing a front camera cover and a rear camera cover"(see 14 and 20 of FIG. 2); and (i) "matingly engaging said front camera cover and said rear camera cover to form a camera housing including said camera body, said plate and said web of film located therein"(see FIG. 1); "wherein said counter wheel additionally includes a plurality of teeth spaced around the periphery thereof, and wherein said sprocket assembly includes a single tooth thereon, said single tooth being engaged with said counter wheel such that one full rotation of said film sprocket results in the rotation of said counter wheel in a second direction by one of said plurality of teeth"(for "plurality of teeth", see 152 a of FIG. 13 and for "single tooth", see 155h of FIG. 12); "additionally including the step of pre-winding said web of film into a roll in said film roll chamber, wherein said counter is set to its starting position by said pre-winding step"(see col. 9, lines 1-14); "wherein said counter indicia is located on the top surface of said counter wheel and said complementary portion includes a protrusion having at least one straight edge"(see location of "counter indicia" in FIG. 13 and see "complementary portion" 163 in FIG. 12); "wherein said mating portion includes a shoulder including at least one straight edge to abut said straight edge of said complementary portion"(see "mating portion" 153g in FIG. 12); "wherein said counter wheel additionally includes alignment indicia visible on said top surface"(see B, 151a, and 151b of FIG. 13); "wherein said alignment indicia includes a first hole"(see 151a of

FIG. 13); "wherein said alignment indicia includes a visual indicator silkscreened onto said counter wheel"(see "alignment indicia" B and 151b in FIG, 13); "wherein said placing said counter wheel step further includes aligning said sprocket assembly with said alignment indicia"(see 155a of FIG. 13); "wherein said plate includes a second hole which is aligned with said first hole after said placing step"(see 167d of FIG. 13); "wherein said sprocket assembly additionally includes a sprocket shaft, a first cam and a second cam, wherein each of said film sprocket, said first cam and said second cam is mounted concentrically around said shaft"(for "sprocket shaft", see 155e; for "first cam", see 155b; and for "second cam", see 155c-d of FIG. 12); "wherein said first cam includes an indentation and said locking member includes a locking finger, wherein said locking finger engages said indentation to lock said film sprocket in said locking step"(see "first cam", 155b and 153d of "locking member", 153,154 in FIG. 12); "wherein said second cam is a ramped cam having an outer diameter eccentrically located from said shaft, said cam including a groove in said ramp portion, said locking member additionally including a follower finger, such that said follower finger engages said groove to discourage said film sprocket from moving, after said placing the counter wheel step and prior to said loading step"(see 155c of "second cam" 155c-d and 154b of "locking member" 153,154 in FIG. 12); "wherein said locking member includes a release claw and a striker, wherein said release claw includes said locking finger and said striker includes said follower finger"(for "release claw", see 153 and for "striker", see 156 in FIG. 12).

Regarding claims 15-20, Aoshima discloses a "camera"(see FIGS. 1, 2, 12, 13, 15, and 28), comprising: a "camera body"(see 15 of FIG. 2 or 115 of FIG. 15), including, a "film cassette chamber"(see 29 of FIG. 2 or 130 of FIG. 15), a "film roll chamber"(see 30 of FIG. 2 or 131 of FIG. 15), and a "sprocket assembly", at least a portion of which is mounted to said camera body between said film cassette chamber and said film roll chamber"(see 155 and 161 of FIG. 12), said sprocket assembly including a "sprocket wheel"(see 161 of FIG. 12) and a "locking member"(see 153 and 154 of FIG. 12), "wherein said locking member periodically locks to prevent rotation of said sprocket wheel, said locking member including a mating portion"(see 153d and 155f of FIG. 12 and col. 19, lines 31-34); a "counter wheel including counting indicia and a complementary portion for initially mating with said mating portion"(for "counter wheel", see 152 of FIGS. 12 and 13; for "counting indicia", see A, B, 167B, dots, and numbers arranged in an arc around the edge on top of "counter wheel" 152 in FIG. 13; and for "complimentary portion", see 163 of FIGS. 12 and 13); a "plate located over said counter wheel to lock said counter wheel to said camera body"(see 167 of FIG. 15); a "web of film loaded across a portion of said film sprocket, from said film cassette chamber to said film roll chamber"(see 124 of FIG. 12); and a "front camera cover and a rear camera cover engaged to form a camera housing including said camera body, said plate and said web of film located therein"(see 14 and 20 of FIG. 2); and "wherein said counter wheel additionally includes a plurality of teeth spaced around the periphery thereof, and wherein said sprocket assembly includes a single tooth thereon, said single tooth being engaged with said counter wheel such that one full rotation of said film

sprocket results in the rotation of said counter wheel in a second direction by one of said plurality of teeth"(for "plurality of teeth", see 152 a of FIG. 13 and for "single tooth", see 155h of FIG. 12); "wherein said counting indicia is located on the top surface of said counter wheel and said complementary portion is located on the bottom 15 surface of said counter wheel, wherein said complementary portion is a wedge shaped protrusion and said mating portion is a shoulder shaped to abut a portion of said wedge"(see location of "counting indicia" in FIG. 13 and see "complementary portion" 163 in FIG. 12 17); "wherein said counter wheel additionally includes alignment indicia visible on said top surface to assist visually in aligning said mating structure with said complementary structure when initially assembled"(see B, 151a, and 151b of FIG. 13) "wherein said wedge is located opposite from said counter wheel from said alignment indicia and on a different surface"(see 163 of FIG. 13); "wherein said sprocket assembly additionally includes a sprocket shaft, a first cam and a second cam, wherein each of said film sprocket, said first cam and said second cam is mounted concentrically around said shaft"(for "sprocket shaft", see 155e; for "first cam", see 155b; and for "second cam", see 155c-d of FIG. 12), "said first cam including an indentation and said locking member includes a locking finger, wherein said locking finger engages said indentation to initially lock said film sprocket"(see "first cam", 155b and 153d of "locking member", 153,154 in FIG. 12); "wherein said second cam is a ramped cam having an outer diameter eccentrically located on said shaft, said cam including a groove in said ramp portion, said locking member additionally including a follower finger, such that said follower finger engages said groove to discourage said film sprocket from moving, after said

locking finger is released from said first cam and prior to film pre-winding" see 155c of "second cam" 155c-d and 154b of "locking member" 153,154 in FIG. 12).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Kucmerowski, U.S. Patent No. 5,235,366 discloses a camera comprising a thumbwheel operated by the user to advance the film and rotate of a sprocket wheel having teeth engaging the perforations in the edge of the film strip which in turn moves a cam causing a picker to decrement the counter wheel by one count or exposure.

Yuito et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,754,892 discloses projection 55b under the counter wheel 55 as a disabling device. In the course of the film winding after the exposure of all available frames, a top projection 44e of the retaining member 44 is brought into engagement with the stopper projection 55b.

Muramatsu et al., U.S. Patent No. 62,33,400 discloses a claw 57 is formed under the count-indicating wheel 30 integrally therewith. During a wind-up after the exposure of a final frame on the film 21, the claw 57 comes into contact with a raised end 32e of the retaining lever 32, and prevents the retaining lever 32 from rotating so as to keep the claw 32c from entering the recess 44a. Muramatsu also discloses Cams 44 and 52 are formed integrally and coaxially with the driven sprocket 38 and so rotate with the sprocket 38. A recess 44a is formed in the cam 44. The periphery of the cam 44 is in

contact with a claw 32c of the retaining lever 32. The periphery of the cam 52 is in contact with a claw 34c of the actuating lever 34.

Kameyama et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,713,046 discloses a finder lens holding plate 74 is place over a frame counter dial 55 in FIGS. 6 and 7. Kameyama also discloses a cam unit 60 which is an integral member constituted of a film stop cam 60a, a shutter cocking cam 60b, a bottom shaft 60c and a one-tooth gear 60d disposed on the top of the cam unit 60. The bottom shaft 60c is coaxially coupled to a sprocket wheel 61 which is disposed inside the light-shielding box 50. The sprocket wheel 61 engages with perforations of the photographic film 24a and makes one revolution while the photographic film 24a is advanced one frame by rotating the film advancing wheel 8. The one-tooth gear 60d meshes with one of teeth 55a formed around the periphery of the frame counter dial 55.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rochelle Blackman whose telephone number is (703) 308-2879. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Russell Adams can be reached on (703) 308-2847. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308-9318.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

RUSSELL ADAMS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800